

Message Text

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SUBJECT: GUIDANCE FOR US DELEGATION TO CONSULTATIVE MEETING
OF THE WORLD FOOD COUNCIL, FEBRUARY 24-25.

REF: (A) USUN 403; (B) ROME 2029

1. FOLLOWING SUGGESTED GUIDANCE FOR US DEL TO SUBJECT
INFORMAL MEETING:

2. IN OUR VIEW, AGENDA ITEM THREE QTE CONSIDERATION OF
THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA OF THE FIRST SESSION OF THE WORLD
FOOD COUNCIL UNQTE IS THE MOST SIGNIFICANT OF FIVE ITEMS.
WE NOTE PARA. 4, REFTEL (B) STATES VIEW OF HANNAH THAT
AGENDA IDEAS QTE WOULD BE ONLY SUGGESTIONS AND THE COUNCIL
WOULD DETERMINE ITS OWN AGENDA. UNQTE GIVEN STILL VERY
PRELIMINARY NATURE OF US VIEWS ON SUBSTANTIVE AGENDA FOR
FIRST MEETING OF THE WORLD FOOD COUNCIL WE FULLY AGREE
WITH THIS APPROACH. USDEL SHOULD THEREFORE MAKE CLEAR IN
DISCUSSION OF THIS ITEM THAT OUR SUGGESTIONS ARE ONLY TEN-
TATIVE IDEAS PENDING LATER REVIEW OF AGENDA.

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3. ITEM 1. OPERATIVE PARAGRAPHS 4 AND 6 OF GA RESOLUTION
3348 (XXIX) SEEM TO REQUIRE SUBSTANTIVE COMMENT BY PARTICI-
PANTS IN THE INFORMAL CONSULTATIVE MEETING OF THE WORLD
FOOD COUNCIL. WE ASSUME IN REGARD TO PARA. 6, FOR
INSTANCE, THAT FAO REPRESENTATIVE WILL GIVE COMPLETE RUNDOWN
ON INTERIM MEASURES UNDERTAKEN BY HIS ORGANIZATION TO IM-
PLEMENT WFC RESOLUTIONS. THESE WOULD INCLUDE ORGANIZATIONAL

AND FINANCIAL MATTERS AS WELL AS TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF
MEETINGS, PARTICULARLY THOSE INVOLVED IN IMPLEMENTATION
OF RESOLUTION ON WORLD FOOD SECURITY. IN REGARD TO PARA.
4, USDEL SHOULD REPORT IN POSITIVE TERMS ON THE AD HOC
MEETING ON GRAIN RESERVES HELD IN LONDON FEBRUARY 10-
11. PURPOSE OF MEETING WAS TO IMPLEMENT PARA 3 OF WFC RE-
SOLUTION 17 WHICH INVITED GOVERNMENTS OF ALL MAJOR FOOD
PRODUCING, CONSUMING AND TRADING COUNTRIES TO ENTER INTO
DISCUSSION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE WITH A VIEW TO ACCELERATING
THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PRINCIPLES CONTAINED IN THE FAO
UNDERTAKING ON WORLD FOOD SECURITY. THE MEETING WAS
SUCCESSFUL IN CONTRIBUTING TO GREATER UNDERSTANDING ON THE
NEED FOR AN EFFECTIVE INTERNATIONAL RESERVES SYSTEM AND
CONVERGENCE OF VIEWS ON ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF SUCH A
SCHEME. IT ALSO HIGHLIGHTED AREAS WHERE FURTHER TECH-
NICAL WORK MIGHT USEFULLY BE CARRIED OUT. IT IS EXPECTED
THAT SUCH TECHNICAL WORK WILL MOVE FORWARD IN THE NEAR
FUTURE. THOSE PRESENT AT THE MEETING INCLUDED: CANADA,
ARGENTINA, AUSTRALIA, BRAZIL, EUROPEAN COMMUNITY,
EGYPT, JAPAN, THAILAND, USSR AND THE UNITED STATES PLUS
OBSERVERS FROM EIGHT EC MEMBER STATES.

4. ITEM 2: WE HAVE NO OBJECTION AT THIS EARLY STAGE TO
PROPOSED DATE OF JUNE 23, 1975.

5. ITEM 3: TAKING INTO ACCOUNT CAVEATS MENTIONED IN PARA.
2, USDEL SHOULD SUGGEST FOLLOWING THREE POINTS FOR CON-
SIDERATION WHEN COUNCIL MEETS TO DRAW UP ITS AGENDA. WE
BELIEVE THESE POINTS COMPLY WITH HANNAH'S ADMONITION THAT
AGENDA FOCUS ON QTE CRITICAL PROBLEMS UNQUOTE.

(A) REVIEW PROGRESS ON IMPLEMENTATION OF GA RESOLUTION
3348 (XXIX) OF 17 DECEMBER 1974. (BY LATE JUNE IT SHOULD
BE POSSIBLE TO DRAW UP A BALANCE SHEET OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS
IN THIS AREA).

(B) CONSIDER OUTLOOK FOR WORLD FOOD PRODUCTION (WITH
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PARTICULAR REGARD FOR LIKELY EXPORTERS' SURPLUSES VERSUS
REQUIREMENTS OF DEFICIT COUNTRIES).

(C) EXPLORE APPLICABILITY AND FEASIBILITY OF DEVELOP-
ING AND INTRODUCING LONGER-RANGE FOOD PRODUCTION TARGETS
AS A BASIS FOR MEASURING PROGRESS OVER THE NEXT TEN
YEARS.

6. ITEM 4: INFORMAL CONSULTATION OBVIOUSLY NOT EQUIPPED

DRAFT WFC RULES OF PROCEDURE. THEREFORE, SUGGEST
SECRETARIAT BE ASKED PREPARE SUGGESTIONS FOR REVIEW AND
DECISION IN FIRST COUNCIL SESSION IN JUNE. ON MATTERS
SUCH AS FREQUENCY AND DURATION OF SESSIONS, TIME MINISTERS
ABLE TO DEVOTE MAY BE CONTROLLING FACTOR. MEETING TWICE

YEARLY FOR THREE, OR AT MAXIMUM FIVE, DAYS MAY PROVE
FEASIBLE. WOULD ASSUME SUCH MEETINGS NORMALLY WOULD BE
IN ROME WHERE SECRETARIAT LOCATED. WITH REGARD LATTER,
OUR VIEWS AS SET FORTH STATE 11502 APPLY. WITH REGARD TO
PRESIDENCY OF COUNCIL, RESOLUTION CALLS FOR ELECTION ON
QTE BASIS OF GEOGRAPHIC ROTATION. UNQUOTE. WHILE SUPPORT-
ING ROTATION, WE WOULD ENTERTAIN HAVING PRESIDENT SERVE
FOR PERHAPS TWO YEAR PERIOD IN ORDER GIVE CONTINUITY TO
DIRECTION COUNCIL.

7. ITEM 5: AT THIS TIME, WE ARE UNABLE TO JUDGE WHETHER
FURTHER INFORMAL CONSULTATIVE MEETINGS MAY BE NEEDED BEFORE
COUNCIL CONVENES OFFICIALLY IN JUNE, BUT WE DO NOT WISH TO
FORECLOSE POSSIBILITY. KISSINGER

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